

TWO 517 1647  
ORDINANCES

O R  
DECLARATIONS

O F T H E  
L O R D S & C O M M O N S

Assembled in

P A R L I A M E N T :

F O R  
Re-establishing the Duty of Excise  
upon all Commodities except Flesh  
and Salt made in the Kingdom.

Die Sabbathi, 28 Augusti, 1647.

**O** R d e r e d, that this Declaration be forthwith printed  
and published: And the Sheriffs of the severall and  
respective Counties are required to publish the said De-  
claration in every Market-Town in England and Wales  
upon the respective Market-days.

H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.

London, Printed by R. Gotes, and R. Raworth, 1647.



THE [illegible] [illegible]

AND [illegible] [illegible]

OF [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

THE [illegible] [illegible]

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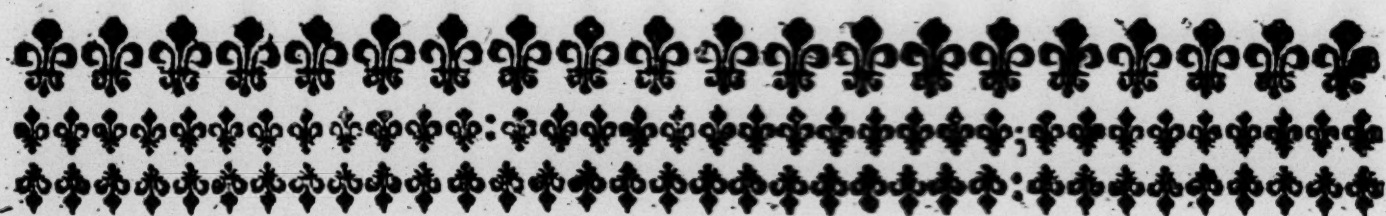
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TWO  
Ordinances or Declarations  
OF THE  
LORDS and COMMONS  
Assembled in  
*PARLIAMENT*

For re-establishing the duty of Excise  
upon all Commodities except Flesh and  
Salt made in the Kingdom.

*Die Sabbathi, 28 Augusti, 1647.*



He Lords and Commons in Par-  
liament assembled by their late  
taking off the Excise wholly  
from Flesh, and discharging all  
Salt made in this Kingdom from  
payment of Excise, were con-  
fident they had given so full a  
testimony to the whole King-  
dom of their readines to ease al people, so far as might  
stand



stand with the support of the Publick, that they expected, That all persons would have with patience attended the time of the Parliament for the removall of the rest, and in the interim have duly paid the severall Duties of Excise upon all other Commodities, and submitted unto all Ordinances of Parliament in that behalf; But being daily informed of the generall opposition which is made against the Collections of those Duties of the Excise which they have thought fit for some time to continue, and the many violencies, injuries and abuses that are offered to the Commissioners, Sub-Commissioners, and other Officers and Receivers thereof, in many Cities, Towns, Counties and Places of the Kingdome; The said Lords and Commons doe therefore hereby Declare, That as they have not taken off any part of the Excise, but onely from Eleash and Salt made in the Kingdom as aforesaid; so they cannot yet, in respect of the great Debt, and many Payments for which these continued Receipts of the Excise are engaged and designed, neither in Justice or Honour, nor with the safety of the Kingdom surcease the rest; but must expect, and if they be put unto it, must require obedience and conformity from all persons whatsoever, unto the due payment of all and every of them, according to the Ordinances of Parliament in that behalf made; What causes did enforce the Parliament at first to resolve upon this Imposition, and for what reasons they are necessitated to continue the same, are fully set downe in the Declaration of both Houses of Parliament of the 22 of *February*, 1646. upon occasion :



sion of the Tumults and great Ryots which then lately before had happened, and were privily fomented in severall parts of the Kingdome against the Receipts of the Excise; and the same necessity for continuance thereof lying still upon the Parliament, and the Tumults and Ryots in opposition thereunto rather being increased then suppressed; The said Lords and Commons cannot but deeply resent the great neglect of the Authority of Parliament amongst the People; and if they shall continue in this obstinacy, shall be enforced upon such Remedies, as shall speedily bring the Contemners thereof unto condign and exemplary punishment: But they doe hope all wel-affected persons will after publication of this present Declaration, and upon review of the said Declaration of the 22 of *February*, 1646. before-mentioned, which therefore they have ordered to be re-printed and published herewith, be so sensible of their own past miscarriages, and so fully satisfied of the Parliaments intentions in the continuance of these Receipts, that they will presently conform unto the payment of all Duties of Excise, due or payable by all and every of them, according to the Ordinances of Parliament, and not divert the Parliament from those great affairs for the settlement of the Peace of the whole Kingdom, upon which they are at present engaged, by enforcing them to such courses for vindicating the authority of their Ordinances, as must needs hinder the Parliament in this great Work, but will also be severely accompted for, with the causers thereof: For as this Duty is by experience found to bee the most easie and equall way, both in relation to the



People and to the Publick; so the Lords and Commons are resolved, through all opposition whatsoever, to insist upon the due collection thereof: But when it shall please God to enable them to settle the Peace of the Kingdom, and to overcome the Engagements and occasions thereof in some good measure, They doe hereby again Declare, That they will then make it appear to the whole World, how much more ready they are to ease the People of this Charge, then they ever could be willing to impose the same.

And for the speedy re-establishing of this Receipt according to the Ordinances of Parliament, or the more vigorous carrying on thereof, The said Lords and Commons doe hereby require and enjoyn the Commissioners of Excise, their Sub-Commissioners, Collectors, and Officers forthwith to apply themselves in all parts throughout the Kingdome, to the due Collection of the Excise by severall Ordinances continued; wherein, as they are hereby required to provide, as farre as conveniently may be, for the ease of the people in their repair and Travell unto such places as they shall through every Hundred or Wapentake appoint, for the bringing in of this Duty; so in case of neglect or appearance, all persons are to take notice, That if any farther Charge or trouble befall them, it ariseth from their own default, and so must expect no other relief, but to be proceeded against according to the Ordinances of Parliament: In the due and vigorous execution whereof, if any Tumults, Ryots, or other opposition shall be hereafter attempted or acted against the said Commissioners of Excise, their Sub-Commissioners,



oners, Collectors, Officers, or others in their aide and assistance; It is hereby farther Ordained, That all Sheriffs, Justices of the Peace, Deputy Lieutenants, Majors, Bayliffs, Constables, Headboroughs, and all other His Majesties Officers in their severall Counties, Liberties, and Jurisdictions, are also hereby strictly enjoyned to be ayding and assisting in the Collections of the Excise, and suppressing of all Tumults and Ryots raised in opposition thereunto, according to the severall Ordinances of Parliament in that behalf made, as they and every of them will answer the contrary at their utmost perill.

And Sir *Thomas Fairfax*, Generall of the whole Forces of the Kingdom, is hereby desired to order and enjoyn all Colonells, Captains, Officers and Souldiers under his Command, upon application made to them, or any of them, speedily to suppress all such Tumults, Ryots, or unlawfull Assemblies, and to apprehend all such Ryoters and Tumultuous persons, that they may be proceeded against according to Law. And forasmuch as such as are disaffected to the service of the Publick, have, and doe give out, as if the charge of the Collection of the Excise were so great, as that half the Receipt and In come were consumed upon Officers; The said Lords and Commons do hereby Declare, That upon an exact examination it doth clearly appear unto the Parliament, and they are well satisfied (whereof they assure the Kingdome) that untill these late Obstructions and Oppositions, the Charge in collecting the Excise, hath never amounted upon the whole Receipt, to full Two shillings upon every Twenty shillings received.



received. And that the whole Kingdome may be fully possessed of what great service the Receipts of the Excise have been to the Common-wealth, the said Lords and Commons doe hereby Declare, That towards the Relief of *Ireland*, satisfaction of their Brethren of *Scotland*, maintenance of their Navie, and severall Armies and Garisons which they were necessitated to raise and keep up in divers parts of the Kingdom for the preservation thereof; and in disbanding and discharging of severall Armies, Forces, and Garisons, and for the relief of wounded and maymed Souldiers, and the Widows and Children of such as have lost their lives in the service of the Common-wealth; and for other necessary occasions for the defence of the Parliament and Kingdom, there hath been clearly received and converted to these Publick services onely, and to no private use whatsoever, The summe of One Million Three hundred thirty four thousand Five hundred thirty two pounds Ten shillings, and Eleven pence halfpenny: And by the Credit of this Receipt, there hath been taken up, and stands assigned, divers very great sums of Money; all which must be discharged before this Receipt can in Justice and Honor be laid down; and if the Kingdom doe duly submit unto the payment of the Excise, will in short time be very well overcome and paid off: And from hence it will be clearly apparent, of what great benefit the same hath been to the Kingdom, and ease also to the people, of whom these great summes must otherwise necessarily have been raised, although with much difficulty and inconvenience, and in a farre more burthenfome manner.

And



(7)

And lastly, the said Lords and Commons do hereby Ordain and Declare, That as well the said Commissioners of Excise, their Sub-Commissioners and under-Officers, as all other persons whatsoever, who shall be aiding and assisting to them or any of them in the executing of the Ordinances of Parliament for collection of the Excise, shall be defended, and saved harmlesse and indemnified by Authority of both Houses of Parliament. And in case any person or persons whatsoever shall be sued, indicted, prosecuted, or molested, for any act or acts, thing or things done in pursuance of this Declaration, or any other Declaration or Ordinance of Parliament touching Excise; It is hereby Declared and Ordained, That in every Action, Suit, Indictment, Information or prosecution whatsoever, wherein or whereby they are or shall be so sued, indicted, prosecuted or molested as aforesaid, It shall be lawful to and for all persons, their Heirs, Executors and Administrators, to plead the General Issue, and to give this or any other Ordinance of Parliament for Excise in evidence in any of His Majesties Courts of Justice or other Courts; and the Judges of all the said Courts are hereby strictly required and enjoined to allow and admit of the same accordingly.

*Joh. Browne, Cleric. Parliamentorum.*

*H. Elsynge, Cler. Parl. D. Com.*

**B**

**Die**





Die Lunæ, 22 Febr. 1646.

**T**He Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament taking notice of the many Tumults and great Riots which have of late happened, and been privily fomented in several parts of the Kingdom against the Receipts and Collections of the Excise, by the secret and subtil designs and practices of Malignants, and such who by their false and feigned pretences do endeavour to breed misunderstanding and impatience in the people; Have, for the better manifesting of the justice of their proceeding, and reality of their intentions, thought fit to make this Declaration to the whole Kingdom :

**T**hat as nothing did or could have drawn them to resolve upon this Imposition, but the preservation of this Kingdom, the Religion, Laws and Liberties from utter ruine and destruction; all which at that time was threatened by the restlesse and cruel designs, practices and treacheries of Papists and malignant persons : So they could then finde no other means, after the well-affected had so willingly borne so many great Levies, which the Malignants



lignants had endeavoured by all cunning ways to evade, how any longer to maintain the Parliament Forces, and other great affairs of the Commonwealth, and to draw in the Malignants and Neutrals to bear their proportional parts of the Charge, then by some such constant and indifferent way. And what great difficulties, expences and charges the said Lords and Commons have by the Receipt and Credit of the Excise, with some other helps, as occasion did require, been enabled ever since, through Gods blessing, to overcome and maintain, by continually keeping on foot so many several Armies as they were by the Kings party in Arms against the Parliament enforced to raise in divers parts of the Kingdom; by maintaining so many Garisons; by relieving of *Ireland* from time to time, when other Supplies could not be timely raised; by satisfying our Brethren of *Scotland* in part, Is by this time so evident to the whole Kingdom, that they hope no well-affected person can or will look back upon what he hath contributed in this way for his part, with any regret or repining, as if the same had or can be fruitlesse to him or his posterity. And for the present continuance of this Levie; when it shall be considered for what great sums, and to how many well-affected persons they have already engaged the Excise for Moneys borrowed and justly due unto them; what expences they



must yet be at before they can settle this Kingdom ; what charges are requisite to reduce the Kingdom of *Ireland* ; and what great engagements do otherwise lie upon the Parliament for many Supplies and Services , for satisfying whereof the Publike Faith and Honour of the Parliament and Kingdom is engaged ; They are confident that no well affected or understanding person can or will desire or expect that this Levie , which they still finde the most equal and indifferent course to go thorow so many great affairs , should cease , while the Parliament is thus deeply engaged , and have so many pressing occasions for moneys for the necessary support and preservation of the Kingdom.

And therefore the said Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament do hereby declare to the whole Kingdom , That they shall and do expect that all persons whatsoever shall duely pay all sums of Money imposed by any Ordinance of Parliament by way of Excise upon all and every the Commodities , Merchandizes and things therein mentioned and comprised ; and that the same Ordinances shall be duely observed , according to the Rules therein prescribed , until further Order of both Houses of Parliament. Whereunto the said Lords and Commons do hereby require all persons to yeeld all ready obedience , conformity and assistance accordingly , as they tender  
the



the Honour of the Parliament, the Welfare of the Kingdom, and as they would approve themselves well-affected to both.

And we the said Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament, to manifest our constant and sincere intentions in the continuance of this Receipt of the Excise, do hereby declare, That as hitherto the Revenue thereof hath been wholly employed for the publike uses and occasions of the Kingdom, and diverted to no private use whatsoever: so they are still resolved to dispose thereof in the same publike and necessary service of the Commonwealth onely; and shall no longer continue this Charge upon the Subject, then they shall finde the publike Affairs wherewith they are intrusted, necessarily to require the same. And when it shall please God by the continuance of his mercy to enable them to settle the peace of the Kingdom, and to overcome the engagements thereof in some good measure, they shall then make it appear to the whole world, how much more ready they are to ease the people of this Charge, then they were willing at first to impose the same.

In the mean time, and to the end they may give all possible ease to the people, where the nature of such a Levie, and the just and most indifferent Rules which must necessarily be used and observed in the raising of the same, will admit thereof; they have, for the better  
regu-



regulation of this Receipt, and for restraining of arbitrary and exorbitant power, resolved for the present on the Instructions and Rules ensuing: and do hereby require the Commissioners of Excise, their Sub-commissioners, and all other their Collectours and under-Officers duely to observe the same. And according as they the said Lords and Commons shall further discover any further inconveniency or pressures upon the people in the levying of the Excise, it shall be their continual care to finde out such fitting remedies for the ease of them, and removing of all just grievances, as shall be a sufficient testimony to the whole Kingdom, how ready they are to answer the great trust reposed in them, and to let the people enjoy the long-expected fruits of their great expenses and contributions.

And the said Lords and Commons do hereby further declare and ordain, That for the better and due punishment of all such Tumults, riots and unlawful Assemblies; all Justices of the Peace, Sheriffs, Maiors, Bailiffs, and all other His Majesties Officers within the Kingdom of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, as well within Liberties as without, within their severall Counties, Liberties & Jurisdictions respectively, do from time to time make diligent enquiry of all Tumults, Riots, & other unlawful Assemblies as have been, or from time to time shall be made, done, or committed against the said



said Commissioners of Excise, their Sub-commissioners, or any of their Officers, or others, in their aid and assistance in the execution of the several Ordinances of Excise; and all such persons as have or shall make or cause such Tumults or Riots, to apprehend, and to commit to prison, and to punish according to Law.

And in case any Tumult or Riot be hereafter attempted or acted against the said Commissioners of Excise, their Sub-commissioners, Collectours or Officers, or others in their aid and assistance: It is hereby further Ordained and declared, That for the better aiding and assisting the said Commissioners of Excise, their several Sub-commissioners, Officers, and others in their aid and assistance, in pursuance of the said Ordinances of Parliament for the levying of Excise; all Sheriffs, Deputy-Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, Maiors, Bailiffs, Constables, Headboroughs, and all other His Majesties Officers, in their several Counties, Liberties, and Jurisdictions; All Colonels, Captains, Officers and Souldiers, and all other His Majesties Subjects, be aiding and assisting from time to time, upon notice to them given, for the suppressing of all such Tumults, Riots, and unlawful Assemblies, and in apprehending and bringing to condign punishment all such Rioters and Offenders according to Law, and in aiding and assisting the said Commissioners, their Sub-commissioners, and Officers, and



and others in their aid and assistance in the execution of the said Ordinances for Excise. And all such as shall be so aiding and assisting, shall be defended, and saved harmlesse and indemnified by Authority of both Houses of Parliament.



*Die*







*Die Lunæ, 22 Febr. 1646.*

# INSTRUCTIONS

## Concerning the EXCISE.

### I.

**T**hat no Excise, or Arrears of any Excise, due for any goods Excisable, consumed or spent, be henceforth demanded, levied or collected by any Officer or Collector of Excise, due by any person before such time as the Ordinances of Excise have or shall begin to be put in execution in the severall Counties or Cities, or any part of the said Counties.

### II.

That no Excise, or any arrears of Excise be from henceforth demanded, levied, or collected by any Officer or Collector of Excise, for any Excise that did grow due by any person, for any Goods within any County, City, Town or Place,  
C during



during the time such County, City, Town, or Place were under the power of the Enemy.

### III.

That the Excise of Ale and Beer be raised and levied upon the Subjects of this Kingdom, as is prescribed and directed by the severall Ordinances of Parliament for the assessing, raising, and collecting thereof, and not by way of poll, or otherwise, unlesse it be where any person or persons have, or shall at their own desire and free consent, and for such time onely as they shall so desire and consent unto, in writing, compound by the poll or otherwise, for Beer and Ale brewed in their own houses, and consumed by themselves and family within their own houses.

### IIII.

That upon complaint made upon Oath to any the Justices of Peace of any County of this Kingdom, or to any Maior, Bayliff, or chief Officer in any City or Town Corporate of the Kingdom of *England* or Dominion of *Wales*, That the Sub-Commissioners of Excise, their Officers or Servants, or any of them, under colour or pretext of the trust in them reposed, and power given by the severall Ordinances of Parliament, have or shall oppresse and abuse the people, by exacting or compelling them to pay more or greater sums of money then is appointed by the severall Ordinances of Excise; or fine and imprison contrary to the said Ordinances, or to have convert-  
ed



ed or employed the money by them collected to their own uses, or to any other use then is appointed by the said Ordinances, or otherwise abuse the said Trusts and Power given them; That the said Justices, Maiors, Bayliffs, and chief Officers have Authority, and are hereby required to send for the Parties and Witnesses, and to examine the Witnesses upon Oath, giving notice to the Parties of the time of examining the said Witnesses; and the Examination so taken upon Oath, to send up in writing, sealed up, and subscribed by the hand of the Justice of Peace, or other chief Officer before whom the said Examination shall be taken from time to time, within twenty dayes after the complaint made, to both or either House of Parliament, or to the Committee of Lords and Commons for regulating the Excise, sitting at the Star-Chamber *Westminster*, who shall and will proceed to the consideration of the said Offences, and to the severe and due punishment of the said Offenders, as to justice shall appertain.

## V.

That in case any Justice of Peace, Deputy-Lieutenant, or any of the Committees within the severall Counties of this Kingdom shall refuse or wilfully neglect to pay the Excise by them due and payable, and to conform to the orders and directions in the severall Ordinances of Excise, or that shall affront or publickly abuse the said Sub-commissioners of Excise, or their Officers, within the said respective Counties, in the execution of their



severall duties and places according to the Ordinances of Excise: That the Deputy Lieutenants, Justices of the Peace, Maiors, Bayliffs, or other chief Officers within the said Counties, Cities, and Places, or any of them, upon notice and request to them made by the said Sub-commissioners, or any of them, do examine the same upon Oath, and thereof within twenty dayes certifie in writing the said Houses of Parliament, or either of them, or the Committee of Lords and Commons for regulating the Excise, who will proceed thereupon against such persons as to justice shall appertain, according to their demerits.

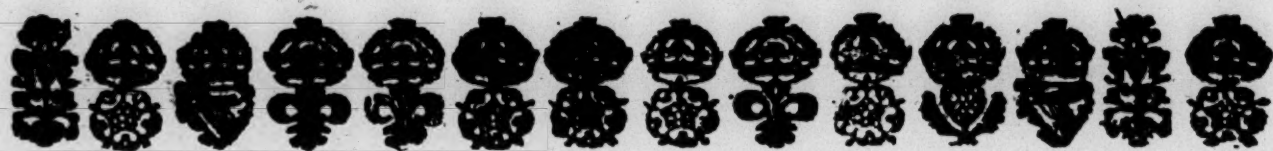
## VI.

That no person taking Alms or Collection shall be compelled to pay Excise for any Ale or Beer that is or shall be brewed in their own houses, and consumed by themselves and family within their own families.

*John Brown Cler. Parliamentorum.*

*FINIS.*





*Die Jovis 2 Septemb. 1647.*



Ordered by the Commons  
in Parliament assembled,  
That the respective Sher-  
riffs of the severall Coun-  
ties, Cities and Places  
be hereby enjoyned and  
required, that they do as well proclaim  
as publish the Declarations concerning  
the Excise, ordered on Friday last to be  
published by the said Sheriffs, in the seve-  
rall Market-Towns, upon the respective  
Market-dayes.

*Hen. Elsyng Cler. Parl.*

*Dom. Com.*

D

Where





Whereas it hath pleased the Right Honourable the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, in and by their Declaration of the 28 of August last concerning the Excise, to appoint me to order and enjoyn all Colonels, Captains, Officers and Soldiers under my Command, upon application made to them, or any of them, speedily to suppress all Tumults, Riots, and unlawfull Assemblies which shall be attempted or acted in opposi-



opposition against the Commis-  
sioners of Excise, their Sub-  
Commissioners, Collectors, or  
Officers, in execution of the  
Ordinances of Parliament for the  
Excise, and to apprehend all  
such Riotors, and tumultuous  
persons, that they may be pro-  
ceeded against according to law.

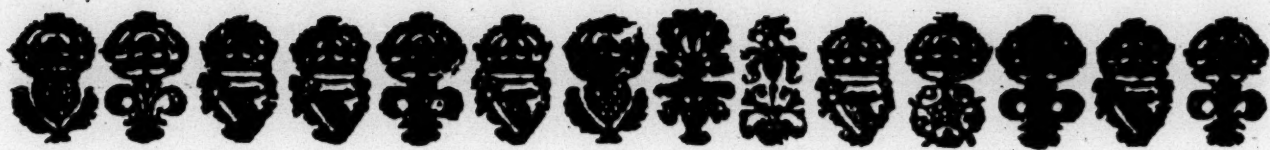
In pursuance whereof, I doe  
hereby require all Colonels,  
Captains, Officers and Souldi-  
ers under my Command, up-  
on application from time to time  
of the said Commissioners of  
the Excise, their Sub-commis-  
sioners, Collectors or Officers,  
unto them or any of them, to  
be ayding and assisting as well  
in preventing of such Tumults  
and



(22)

and Riots, as in the suppressing  
thereof. *Given under my Hand  
and Seal the fourth day of Septem-  
ber, 1647.*

*Tho. Fairfax.*



FINIS.

